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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The present invention provides a system and method for providing processing operations on a document by a external processing routine. In architecture, the system includes a processing link identifier that identifies a document containing at least one processing link to the external processing code. An invoker is used to invoke a processing engine that modifies the document using the external processing routine. The present invention can also be viewed as a method for operating on a document by external processing routines that can operate on the document. The method operates by acquiring a processing link in the document and using the processing link to invoke a processing engine. The processing engine is then used to modify the document.